

REMARKS

Claims 1 and 8 are amended. Claims 1 and 8 are pending in the application.

Claims 1 and 8 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kross (U.S. Patent No. 6664301), in view of Elder (U.S. Patent No. 6107537). A proper obviousness rejection requires, *inter alia*, that the references teach or suggest all the claim limitations. Claims 1 and 8 are allowable over Kross and Elder for at least the reason that the references, individually or as combined, fail to disclose or suggest each and every element in either of those claims.

As amended, claims 1 and 8 recite specific compositions containing specific amounts of the recited ingredients. The amendments to claims 1 and 8 are supported by the specification at the Example set forth at page 14. The present claims, as amended, are clearly distinguished from the cited art. The compositions of the cited references do not suggest the claims 1 and 8 recited locust bean gum, carrageenan, at least one member selected from the group consisting of chitosan, collagen and aloe extract, with glycerine, at least one functional additive selected from the group consisting of methylparaben, propylparaben, imidazolidinylurea and Twin 80, and water. Nor does the cited art teach or suggest the recited specific amounts of each of the ingredients. The specified amounts achieve the claimed technical results.

Additionally, the Example indicates a technical result with respect to the claimed invention. When the hydrogel sheet or patch of the present invention is applied to the skin, hydrogel is transformed from the gel state into a fluid state due to body temperature. A viscosity variance of the hydrogel composition in the present invention was measured according to temperature and the results are presented in Fig. 1. From Fig. 1 it can be seen that the hydrogel composition is significantly reduced in viscosity with an increase in temperature (particularly at 30-50°C), thereby being transformed into the fluid state. Meanwhile, the cited references do NOT teach or suggest that a conversion of the state of the hydrogel into a fluid state takes place at 30-50°C. Accordingly, the combination of Kross and Elder fails to disclose or suggest each and every element of claim 1 and claim 8.

For the reasons discussed above, claims 1 and 8 are allowable. Accordingly, applicant respectfully requests formal allowance of claims 1 and 8 in the Examiner's next action.

Respectfully submitted,

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